

Wednesday, July 13

- 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Conference Registration / Information
- 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Holiday Inn Welcome Reception
- 1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Concurrent Best Practices Sessions
• Project Development • Construction • Finance • Operations
- 2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Break
- 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Concurrent Best Practices Sessions
• Project Development • Construction • Finance • Operations
- 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Reception
- 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Conference Banquet / Motown Revue
- 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Dessert Extravaganza

Thursday, July 14

- 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Conference Registration / Information
- 7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast (Delegates Only)
- 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Opening General Session
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Lunch (on your own)
- 1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Concurrent Presentation / Panel Discussion
• Mobility, Safety & Geometrics for the Ages
• Work Zone Safety
- 2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Break
- 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Concurrent Presentation / Panel Discussion
• Intelligent Transportation Systems
• Mega Projects (Road, Rail, Freight, Border, Ports)
• Context Sensitive Solutions
- 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Hospitality Opportunities (hotel will post information)

Friday, July 15

- 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Conference Registration / Information
- 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Closing Session / Brunch

Wednesday, July 13

7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Conference Registration/Information

City Centre Lobby

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Holiday Inn Welcome Reception

State Rooms I & II – Lower Level

The management and staff of the Holiday Inn Chicago City Centre have cordially invited all of this year's Mississippi Valley Conference participants to join them at the Welcome Reception.

1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Best Practices Sessions

These sessions will run concurrently and will repeat again at 3:15 p.m. The sessions will feature 10 minute presentations on three or four selected best practices. A "Best Practice" CD will also be distributed with the information received from the Mississippi Valley states.

Project Development

Innovation in system planning and design is essential to delivering a vital transportation system. This session will focus on design, environmental issues, access management, planning, land use, and utility coordination. Program management, quality and partnering initiatives will also be highlighted.

Construction

State of the art construction techniques, as well as exploring new types of materials, will lessen the impact on the motoring public. Best practices in this session will include innovative construction techniques, construction management, testing, and include a multi-modal perspective.

Finance

Funding uncertainties, fueled by the lengthy reauthorization process, have forced states and modal agencies to get creative in their approaches to finance. This session will include some of the best examples of public/private collaborations, investment/funding strategies, fund methodology, and cost constraints.

Operations

Enhancing the operation of our transportation systems becomes increasingly important as use intensifies. Presentations in this session will include best practices in maintenance, traffic operations, safety, and multi-modal operations.

2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Break

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Best Practices Sessions

These sessions will run concurrently and are a repeat of the 1:30 p.m. sessions. The sessions will feature 10 minute presentations on three or four selected best practices.

Project Development

Construction

Finance

Operations

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Reception

State Rooms I & II – Lower Level

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Conference Banquet

LaSalle Ballroom – Lower Level

MVC Welcome

Gloria J. Jeff

Director, Michigan Department of Transportation
President of the Mississippi Valley Conference

Host State Welcome

Timothy W. Martin

Secretary, Illinois Department of Transportation

Invocation

Dinner

Entertainment

Motown Revue

8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Dessert Extravaganza

State Rooms I & II – Lower Level

Thursday, July 14

7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Conference Registration/Information

7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Opening General Session

8:00 a.m. – 8:05 a.m.

Present Colors, Pledge of Allegiance

8:05 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Gloria J. Jeff

Director, Michigan Department of Transportation
2005 President, Mississippi Valley Conference

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Mary Peters

Administrator, Federal Highway Administration

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Jack Lettiere

Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Transportation
2005 President, AASHTO

9:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Opening General Session (Continued)

9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

AASHTO Update

Speaker: John Horsley

Executive Director, AASHTO

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

**Assessing Operational Needs
of the Interstate System**

Speaker: Jim Steele

Michigan Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Asset Management

Speaker: Kirk Steudle

Chief Deputy Director
Michigan Department of Transportation

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Break

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Safety Conscious Planning

Speaker: Susan Herbel, Ph.D.

Transportation Safety Solutions

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Lunch (On Your Own)

1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Concurrent Presentation/
Panel Discussion Sessions**

1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Mobility, Safety & Geometrics for the Ages

Ways to improve local and regional public transportation in order to provide people with alternatives to driving and making communities more walkable are the focus of this session. Updates will also be included on improved sign visibility, signals, and pavement markings; changes in geometrics, i.e., roundabouts, 4-lane to 3-lane conversions, better design of turn lanes, and consideration of bus turnouts.

1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Work Zone Safety

Safe work zones are imperative in today's accelerated construction projects. This presentation will identify and present "cutting edge" technology in the subject area, including best practices through panel discussion.

2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Break

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Intelligent Transportation Systems

Managing travel through Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) is imperative for the future operations of our transportation systems. Presentations will provide information on current and future state-of-the-art ITS deployments.

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Mega Projects – Rail, Freight, Border, Ports

All state DOT's have projects that they define as "Mega" projects. These projects are typically large in scope, expensive, and controversial. There are also unique characteristics and obstacles associated with these projects and our ability to develop them is tied to our ability to overcome these hurdles. This session will focus on the issues encountered within a few "Mega" projects, and the steps taken to overcome them.

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Context Sensitive Solutions

Addressing the needs and wants of the stakeholders in transportation projects must be at the forefront of our business. This session will present current initiatives from several states on process/project related Context Sensitive Solutions. Topics will include innovative techniques to gain stakeholder input into transportation programs and methods of public engagement that promote integrated transportation solutions.

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Hospitality Opportunities



Friday, July 15

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**Closing Session and Brunch with
Delegates, Spouses and Guests**

LaSalle Ballroom – Lower Level

**Greetings, Recognition of Sponsors
and Recap of Meeting**

Gloria J. Jeff

Director, Michigan Department of Transportation

President of the Mississippi Valley Conference

Keynote Presenter

Passing of the Gavel

Closing Remarks

Frank Busalacchi

Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Transportation

2005 – 2006 President, Mississippi Valley Conference

Adjournment

July 13 – 15, 2005

Chicago Holiday Inn City Centre

Tentative Agenda